

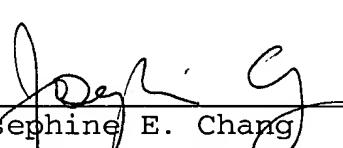
Appn No. 09/839,944
Amdt date June 2, 2004
Reply to Office action of January 6, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 and 3-15 will now be pending in this application upon entry of this amendment. Claims 1 and 8 have been amended to include the limitations of claims 39 and 40, respectively. Claims 16-40 have been canceled. The amendments find full support in the original specification, claims, and drawings. No new matter has been added. This Amendment is being filed with a Request for Continued Examination. In view of the above amendments and remarks that follow, reexamination, reconsideration, and an early indication of allowance of claims 1 and 3-15 are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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